

Donna Sneed

Jewelry Maker

Elizabeth City, NC

I am a recent transplant to North Carolina by way of Northern Virginia, where I served for many years as an officer and director of a local arts federation. By trade and training a graphic designer, I still telecommute to my job as director of publications for a Northern Virginia university. So jewelry making is my "night job."

I have a deep love for glass of all kinds, and my favorite is Murano (Venetian) glass with its rich colors and inclusions of genuine 24 karat gold, sterling silver, and aventurina. Using this fine glass in combination with Swarovski crystals, glass seed beads, and sterling silver wire and components, I design and create unusual, one-of-a-kind jewelry that is simple and reflective of the Old World elegance of this type of glass.

In addition, I love hand weaving small beads, such as crystal, fire polished, and seed beads, into bracelets and necklaces using a variety of techniques, such as right-angle weave, St. Petersburg chain, peyote, twist, and many others. Part of the fun is coming up with the designs and color combinations using specially designed graph paper. The possibilities are endless, and it is always a challenge to come up with something new and different.

